

REMARKS

This amendment responds to the Office Action dated July 27, 2005.

The Examiner objected to claims 76, 79, 80, 83, and 89 as being substantial duplicates of claims 53, 67, 72, and 74. With respect to claim 79, the applicant agrees and has accordingly canceled the claim. The applicant believes that the remaining claims each include unique language that varies the scope of each claim, hence the Examiner's contention that they are substantial duplicates of each other is unwarranted.

The Examiner rejected claims 77 and 88 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph. Each of these claims has been amended so that they clearly and particularly point out the subject matter claimed.

The Examiner rejected claims 50-53, 56, 57, 59-66, 84, 86-88, 90, and 91 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Jolissaint, U.S. Patent No. 6,463,149. The Examiner's rejection is improper because the cited reference fails to disclose the limitations, found in each rejected claim, of "detecting an input" and "detecting a location attribute associated with said object, said location attribute comprising at least one of: (i) a function conditioning the occurrence of an event on the location of said input; and (ii) a function limiting the location at which an event is to be presented." With respect to claims 10-13, 56, 57, and 59-66, each claim also specifies that the input must be associated with an object in a shared display of a web browser.

The Examiner contends that Jolissaint discloses the step of "detecting an input associated with an object in a shared display of a web browser" at col. 5 lines 48-49 by arguing that the limitation reads on the disclosed act of responding to a telephone call by a user. First, the applicant notes that the Examiner fails to indicate how the detected input (the telephone call) is associated with any of the objects in the display 20 shown in FIGS. 2a – 2b of Jolissaint, to which the cited passages refer. The applicant notes that the panel 21 includes an icon of a telephone, but as FIGS 2a-2b clearly show, this icon pertains to the actions taken by the electronic workforce 5, e.g. instructing a live customer service representative (CSR) to call the

user. Thus neither the telephone icon, nor apparently any other object in the display 20 is associated with the detected telephone call.

Furthermore, the Examiner's contention that the limitation of "detecting a location attribute associated with said object, said location attribute comprising at least one of: (i) a function conditioning the occurrence of an event on the location of said input; and (ii) a function limiting the location at which an event is to be presented" is disclosed at col. 5 lines 54-56 is inaccurate. The Examiner argues that the disclosure that certain events are triggered by moving icons to different portions of the display misses the point. The limitation at issue states that the location attribute includes at least one of a "function conditioning the occurrence an event on the location *of said input*," which the Examiner contends is the *telephone call*, and not the icons. This "bait and switch" tactic cannot form an appropriate basis for a rejection. If, as the Examiner contends, responding to a telephone call is equivalent to "detecting an input", then it is incumbent upon the Examiner to next cite a disclosure in Jolissaint conditioning the occurrence of an event on the location *of the caller*, and not the locations of the icons on the display of an automated response system. Similarly, the Examiner's assertion that "the icon being placed at a grid position limits the location at which the event of placing the icon is to be presented" is entirely circular. If the event *is* the placement of an icon at position "x" on a display, that event cannot be said to be *conditioned on* placing the icon at position "x" on the display, otherwise the icon could never be moved to position "x" in the first place.

Contrary to the Examiner's assertions, Jolissaint does disclose the limitations of "detecting an input associated with an object in a shared display of a web browser" and "detecting a location attribute associated with said object, said location attribute comprising at least one of: (i) a function conditioning the occurrence of an event on the location of said input; and (ii) a function limiting the location at which an event is to be presented." Therefore, the Examiner's rejection of claims 50-53, 56, 57, 59-66, 84, 86-88, 90, and 91 is improper.

The Examiner rejected claims 54, 55, 58, 67-83, 85, and 89 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being obvious in view of Jolissaint with Anupam et al., U.S. Patent No. 6,353,851. The Examiner rejected claims 47-49 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being obvious in view of Jolissaint